



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/738,994	12/19/2000	Freeland Glen Young III	52493.000131	2704

7590 08/23/2010
Hunton & Williams
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006-1109

EXAMINER

LE, UYEN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2163

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

08/23/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/738,994	Applicant(s) YOUNG ET AL.	
	Examiner UYEN T. LE	Art Unit 2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 December 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 May 2009 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>17 Dec 2009 and 8 Jan 2010</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-34 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 17 December 2009 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a), (e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Mukherjee (US 6,314,415) provided by the applicant.

Regarding claim 1, Mukherjee discloses, teaches or suggests all the claimed subject matter (see at least Figures 3, 5, 6). Note the screen for receiving representative appointment information in Figures 3 C, D. Mukherjee teaches or suggests providing instructions for analyzing and sorting the received information when Mukherjee shows fetching and sorting prompts to minimize questions to be asked (see column 16, lines 1-30). Mukherjee teaches the concept of saving the representative appointment information when Mukherjee shows the user can save answers and print out forms populated with information entered (see column 17, lines 37-58. Mukherjee teaches providing instructions for presenting an interactive display when Mukherjee shows the screen to allow users to enter answers to the questions (see Figures 3). Claim 1 last limitation "providing an interface means...appointment information" merely reads on the fact that the method of Mukherjee is interactive. The claimed "displayed and presented received representative appointment information"

is met by the information entered by the user and displayed on the screen as the information is being entered.

Regarding claim 2, Mukherjee discloses the interactive access is provided via the Internet (see column 6, lines 55-57, Figure 2A).

Regarding claim 3, Mukherjee teaches or suggest the concept of a plurality of current and pending appointment information when Mukherjee shows different types of filing for example license reinstatement, appointment termination (see Figure 3A).

Regarding claim 4, Mukherjee teaches or suggests "providing ...date range" when Mukherjee shows filing types of licenses and appointments (see Figures 3). Clearly any license or appointment is associated with a date range. Mukherjee teaches or suggests "providing...modified within said inputted date range" when Mukherjee show "license amendment", "appointment termination".

Claim 5 is met by the fact that update information such as license amendment is processed in the method of Mukherjee (see Figures 3, 5).

Regarding claims 6-11, Mukherjee discloses identification fields of a representative appointment when Mukherjee shows screens asking users to enter personal information (see Figures 3E). The claimed authorization

fields are met by lines of authority (see Figure 3K). Mukherjee discloses the claimed representative status field, teaches the concept of authorization fields of product group, company, state (see Figures 3). Furthermore, any appointee or licensee is associated with an effective and expiration date. Although Mukherjee does not specifically show a writing code field, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art to include any field deemed necessary in order to track a representative appointment.

Claims 12-22, 23-33 correspond respectively to a computer program product and system for performing the method of claims 1-11, thus are rejected for the same reasons stated in claims 1-11 above. Note the claimed computer readable medium is interpreted by the examiner as tangible storage media excluding transient intangible media of signals, carrier waves, communications and transmission media.

Regarding claim 34, Mukherjee discloses providing the one or more instructions by a user to an application server having a processor module when Mukherjee shows the method is performed on a client/server base (see Figures 2A, B).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Peck (US 5,273,434) teaches system for training technicians.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to UYEN T. LE whose telephone number is (571)272-4021. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Uyen T. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2163
15 August 2010